



SERVICEMEMBER AGRICULTURAL VOCATION EDUCATION (SAVE)

Monthly Newsletter

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Announcement

June 2021, we closed the doors to Golden Prairie Honey Farms. We would like to say, "Thank You!" to all of the volunteers that dedicated their time working to make Golden Prairie Honey Farms as successful as it was. Special thank you to the members of the SAVE Farm family who went above and beyond to ensure a smooth transition into a new chapter in our story.

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Helping Hands from the Soldiers of C Company, 3/66 AR on Fort Riley.

This summer, Soldiers from Cobra Company, 3rd Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment volunteered to provide our Training Farm with a much-needed maintenance day. SAVE Farm was originally contacted by the unit's commander, requesting for his Soldiers to have the opportunity to come out to the farm and check out the way our farm operated. He also asked if there were any opportunities for his Soldiers to volunteer out at the farm. He is a huge proponent of the agricultural community in the Fort Riley and Manhattan area and felt that it would be a great opportunity for Soldiers who have never experienced the lifestyle to see what it's all about.



Our Chairman of the Board, Tod Bunting, accompanied by Eric Peck and Melissa Wahl welcomed the Soldiers to the farm and provided an overview of our operation, mission, and the importance of our role in helping service members and veterans. It was emphasized how the work that the Soldiers did on the farm that day, impacted the future service member, veterans, and others who had the desire to pursue a passion or career in agriculture.



The Soldiers assisted SAVE by helping with the clean-up and removal of the items that were not productive on the farm as well as made multiple repairs to equipment and facilities. The mechanics of C Co, 3/66 AR enjoyed the chance to work on equipment that was not considered military standard, to include a late model Ford mid-sized tractor. Statements of gratitude flowed from the maintenance section as their eyes lit up when hearing the engine begin to turn over after years of sitting on the farm.

We are thankful to the special guests and representative that were also present on that day. State Representative Mike Dodson, Karen Woodrich (State Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) and Jack Fitzgerald (Assistant State Conservationist), Dan Meyerhoff (Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts), Jon Unger (Kansas Land Improvement Contractors Association (KLICA)), Troy and Laura Munsch (Digital Marketing Consultant, as well as representatives from John Deere.



We are all proud of our Service Men and Women who are serving our Nation and especially proud of these Soldiers for their assistance. We look forward to the next opportunity we have to partner with Soldiers from Fort Riley in our efforts to continue in improving SAVE Farm. These improvements will only enhance the learning experience of those whom we serve.

What Happened Around the Farm

Pulling Together After the Storm



Here at the SAVE Farm, we stress the importance of community and working together. After a strong summer storm passed through the Riley County, Board members and staff came together to make repairs to our classroom as well as clean the falling trees and limbs.

Competing with the Heat!

This past summer, we not only experienced a severe storm but also extreme heat for a prolonged period of time. Long periods of high temperatures often lead to drought. This was evident in our Hazel Nut Orchard. We suffered a minor loss, but we are still moving forward with the remaining trees. Once again, we pulled together to take care of the farm. The orchard is continuing to grow. Some of our Summer/Fall program students have volunteered their time on the weekends to help maintain the orchard as well as the garden. If anyone is willing to volunteer to help at the farm, please contact us here at the SAVE Farm.



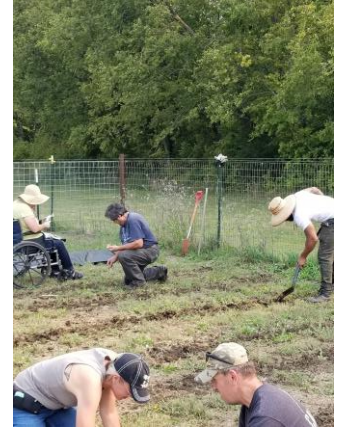
Educational Day for the 4H Club!

This year has brought new life to the farm. It has been said that SAVE Farm almost meets the criteria of “Old McDonald’s Farm.” We have added chickens, lambs, and ducks to the farm, which has made a great addition. Members of the Council Grove 4H Club took the opportunity to have any educational tour of the SAVE Farm in August 2021. The individuals on the tour enjoyed their experience. SAVE Farm welcomes any Agricultural Education Program or Organization to come out and experience what we have to offer.

2021 Summer/Fall Sustainable Agriculture Program

On July 5th, SAVE Farm started their 2021 Sustainable Agriculture Program. This will be the first class to participate in the SAVE Farm 440 contact hours sustainable agriculture program. The program is designed to allow the students to gain the knowledge and understanding of a vast variety of agricultural subjects. Upon completion of this program, the students will understand the agriculturist way of thinking and operating to enhance their success in agriculture whether it be their own small farm or a career in agribusiness.

This year's class consists of five students with diverse backgrounds but one major thing in common, a desire for agriculture. In the past, our programs have provided our students with the same valuable training but were dependent on the schedule of the parent school. Cloud County Community College and then briefly Kansas State, provided our students with the opportunity to attend a Community College or University while experiencing the hands-on training through SAVE Farm. November 2020, SAVE Farm obtained our license from the Kansas Board of Regents to provide postsecondary education to our students independent of a parent school. Now SAVE Farm is enabled to adjust our programs in order to fit the needs of the students.



Major universities and colleges provide in depth lesson plans on subjects that meet the criteria for their students to obtain a degree in the agricultural field of their choosing. These processes require that the student spends each semester taking courses that will enhance their knowledge. This process normally would take an individual two to four years to complete. SAVE Farm is not trying to replace that process, but rather provide a pathway to agriculture through our revised sustainable agriculture program. The sustainable agriculture program will provide our students with the fundamentals and introductory knowledge for students regarding the agricultural subjects taught at most

universities and colleges but in a more accelerated manner. Our program enables the student to learn in the traditional classroom environment and reinforces the lessons with hands-on training.

Our students will learn from experienced farmers, agribusiness personals, and subject matter experts. Understanding that everyday is a possibility to learn something new, our students come to class with the willingness to learn and the desire to excel. With subjects that cover everything from Agribusiness Management, Plant and Animal Science, as well as Range Management, our students are learning a broad spectrum of the agricultural field to be successful. These courses also include farmstead design and basic farm and ranch construction. The education provided will feed the desire of our students to potentially pursue a degree from a university or college such as Kansas State University.



EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- 9**
OCT **Pumpkin Patch Arts and Crafts Fair**
Sat, 9 AM – 7 PM
Riley County Fairgrounds, 1726 Avery Ave, Manhattan, KS
- 9**
OCT **Riverview Farm Market**
Sat, 10 AM – 2 PM
Riverview Farms, 1913 E 1125 Rd, Lawrence, KS
- 9**
OCT **Harvest Festival**
Sat, 10 AM – 3 PM
Hildebrand Farms Dairy, 5219 Rucker Rd, Junction City, KS
- 9**
OCT **Pumpkin PaZoola**
Sat, 9 AM – 4 PM
Rolling Hills Zoo, 625 N Hedville Rd, Salina, KS
- 12**
OCT **FSMA Produce Safety Grower Training**
Tue, 8 AM – 5 PM
Kansas State University, 22201 W. Innovation Dr, Olathe, KS
- 14**
OCT **Fall Festival October Luncheon**
Thu, 11:30 AM
Riley's Conference Center, 446 Seitz Dr, Fort Riley, KS
- 16**
OCT **2021 Fall Farm Tour at Better Equine Ranch**
Sat, OCT 16, 9 AM – Sun, OCT 17, 4 PM
Better Equine Ranch, 29545 Pleasant Valley Rd, Paola, KS
- 17**
OCT **Fun on the Farm! (Music Festival)**
Sun, 2 – 5 PM
A & H Farm, 1374 Collins Ln, Manhattan, KS
- 18**
OCT **Fall Farm & Food Conference: Day 1 Farm Tours**
Mon, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
KC Farm School at Gibbs Road, Kansas City, KS
- 21**
OCT **Geary Community Farmers Market**
Thu, 4 – 7 PM
Church of the Nazarene, 1025 S. Washington St, Junction City, KS
- 23**
OCT **2021 MHK Chili Cook-Off!**
Sat, 8 AM – 5 PM
Rockin K's, 1880 Kimball Ave STE 100, Manhattan, KS